

# ABSTRACT

## Communications Network

In a communications network, a network node is connected to a signal source  
 5 external to the network. The node receives control signals including a control field  
 which may take one of a number of different values. The node overwrites the  
 control field with an allowed value determined by the network operator. The  
 control field may determine the routing of signals, in which case the node by  
 overwriting the control field may restrict the routing of signals from outside of the  
 10 network to a simple point-to-point connection.

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